



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 26, 1999

Contact: Bart Hartman (619) 531-5225

COUNTY STANDS OUT IN COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES *Citizens, County Employees Credited For Record Year Of Tax Receipts*

San Diego County Treasurer-Tax Collector Bart Hartman announced today that San Diego County taxpayers have achieved another record year for the payment of their taxes. County residents paid more than \$1.85 billion in property taxes during the 1998-99 fiscal year. This includes secured taxes, which are taxes on land and buildings, as well as unsecured taxes, for such property as boats, airplanes, and racehorses.

"Tax collections for the past year have set new records for our county, both in the amount collected, as well as the percent that was collected," said Hartman. "These collection rates are a positive reflection on both our citizens and my staff, and show once again that San Diego County taxpayers and employees are among the best in the state." Historically, San Diego County has maintained one of the highest collection rates in the State.

"By working with taxpayers willing to pay their taxes, and aggressively pursuing those who choose not to, we are able to provide both excellent service to our customers, and the revenues our regional governments need," said Hartman. Property taxes are the single largest revenue source for the many local agencies in the region, including school districts.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, property tax collections totaled \$1,855,835,545. This is an increase of over \$115 million from the previous fiscal year.

Additional information may be obtained from the Treasurer-Tax Collector's main office located in the County Administration Center at 1600 Pacific Highway in downtown San Diego, or by calling (619) 531-5225.

###